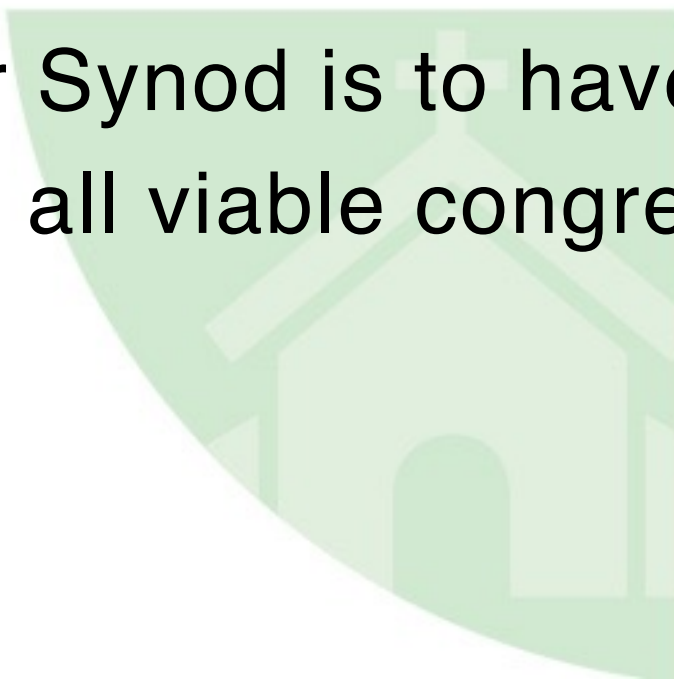




MISSION FORWARD 2024-25

## Our Focus

- Our **Purpose** is to live like Christ in our communities
- The **Priority** of our Synod is to have community-oriented pastors in all viable congregations



MISSION FORWARD 2024-25

## Our Priority

- Mission Forward: filling vacancies and managing transitions
- We do not have a regularly called pastor in 1/3 of our congregations
- We must have pastors who are community-oriented

MISSION FORWARD 2024-25

## **Our Priority**

- Pastors who lead our congregations to live like Christ in the neighborhoods of our churches
- Looking back in nostalgia will not help us follow Jesus into the future

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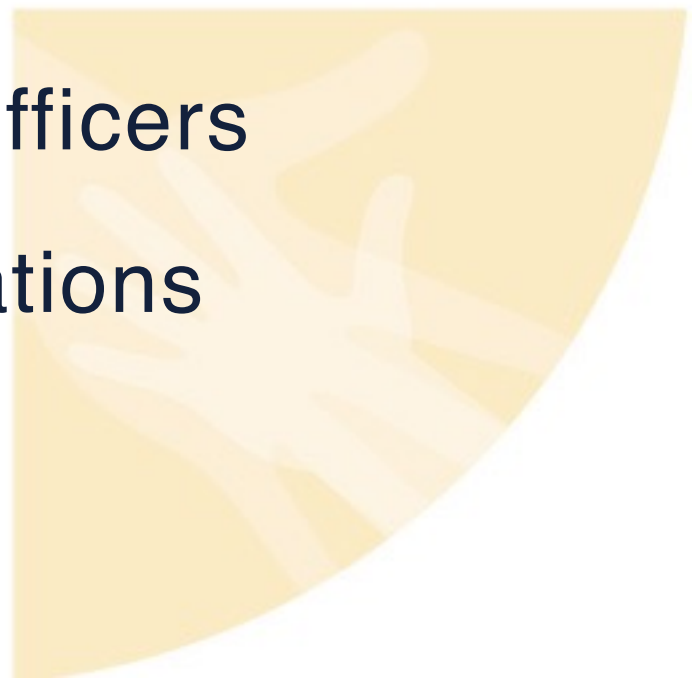
## **Our Priority**

- “When Church Stops Working” – if doing the same old things worked, we wouldn’t be where we are today
- Provide training and other resources for pastors
- Focus on recruiting from within our communities and widen our focus to do courageous things

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## **Key Viability Norms**

- Gather Weekly for Worship
- Call and Pay a Pastor
- Elect a Congregational Council and Officers
- Keep Current with all Financial Obligations



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## **Recommended Options & Guidance**

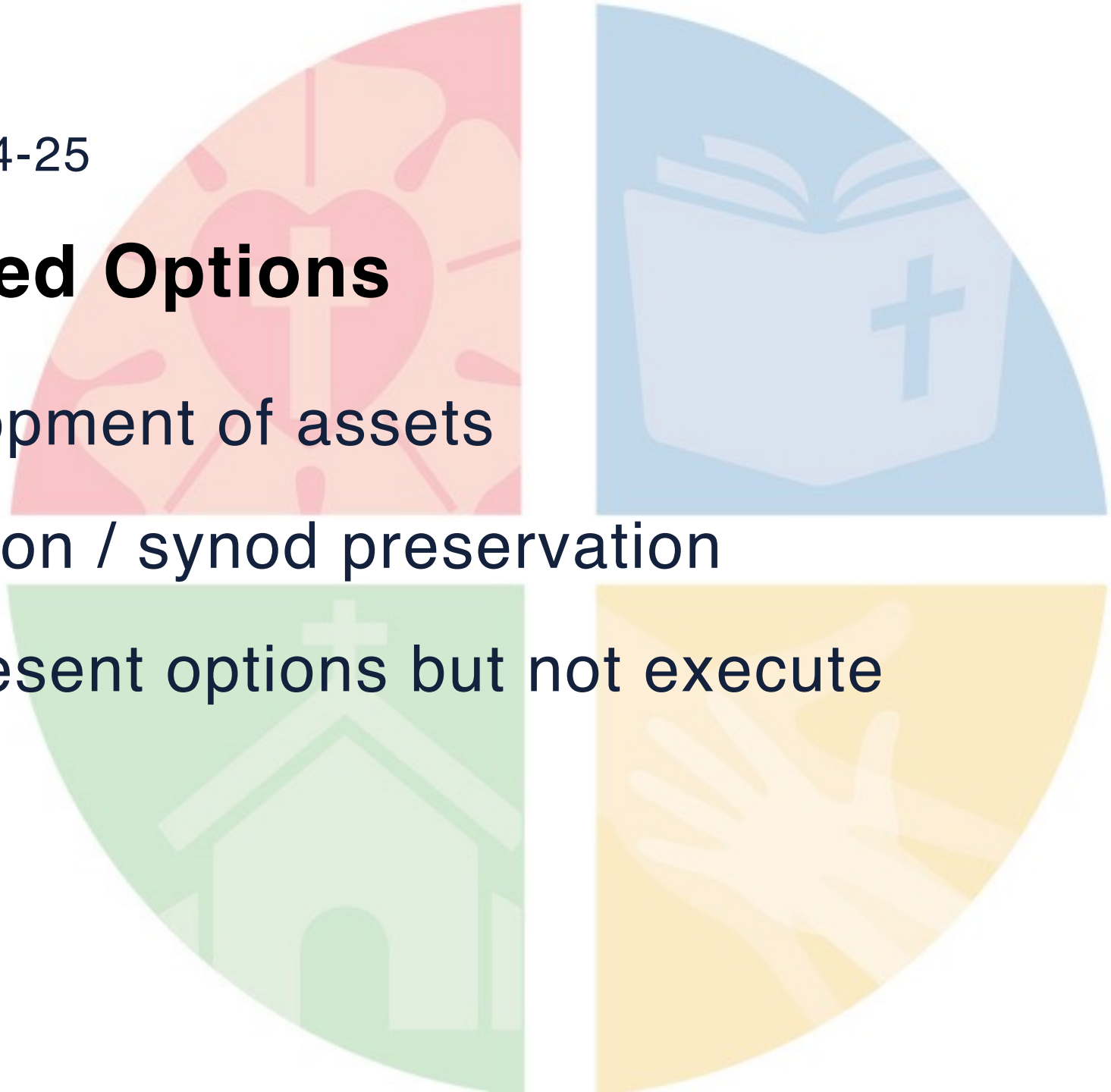
- Revitalization and renewal if open to new things
- Collaborative ministry models
- Move to holy closure
- “Die like Christ in our communities”
- Ecumenical partnerships



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## **Not Recommended Options**

- Selling or redevelopment of assets
- Synod administration / synod preservation
- Synod staff will present options but not execute

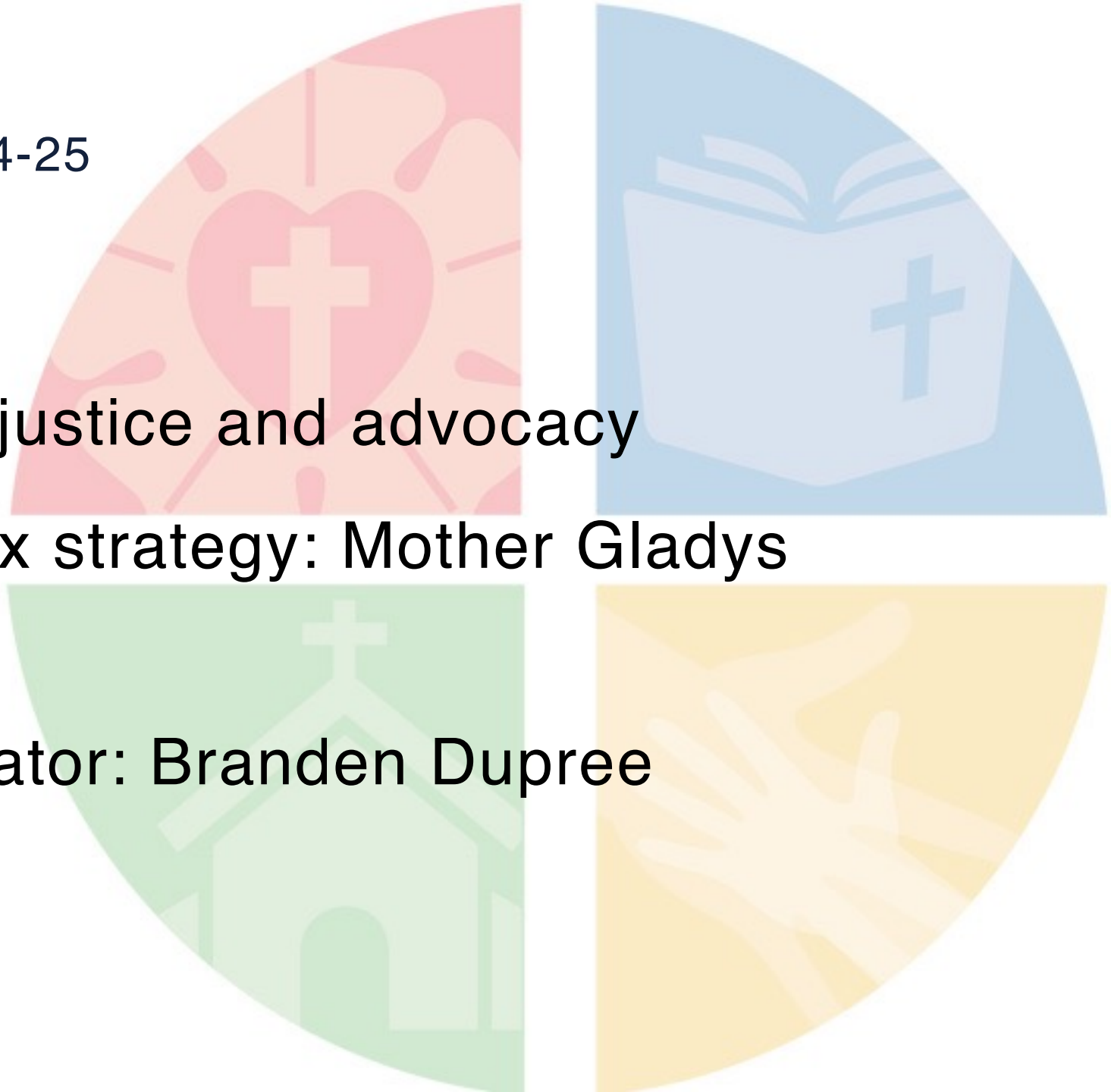




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## Principle

- Ensure reparative justice and advocacy
- Developing a Bronx strategy: Mother Gladys Díaz
- Advocacy Coordinator: Branden Dupree



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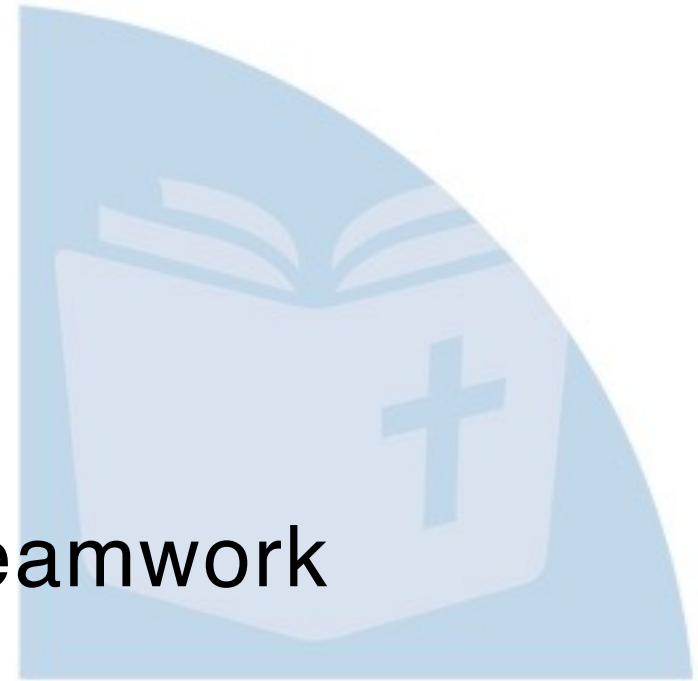
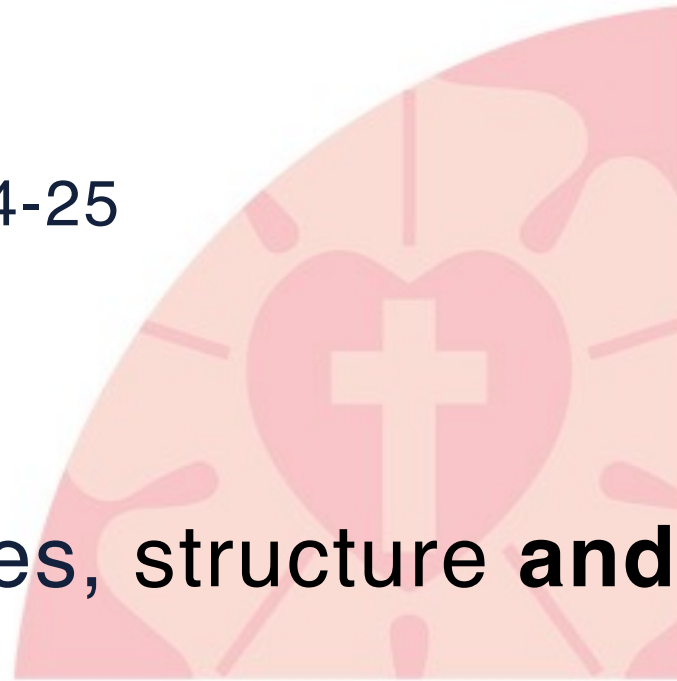
## Principle

- Our **Purpose** is to live like Christ in our communities
- The **Priority** of our Synod is to have community-oriented pastors in all viable congregations
- A key **Principle** is to ensure reparative justice and advocacy

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## Alignment

- Staff responsibilities, structure **and** teamwork
- Budget allocations
- Events



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## **Our Strategies**

- Prepare Church Councils
- Recruit Community-Oriented Pastors
- Expand the Candidate Pool
- Leadership Involvement



